



# COUNCIL MINUTES

May 23, 2024

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 23, 2024, at 7:30 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles  
Francisco Heredia  
Jennifer Duff  
Mark Freeman  
Alicia Goforth\*  
Scott Somers  
Julie Spilsbury

## COUNCIL ABSENT

None

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Holly Moseley  
Jim Smith

(Mayor Giles excused Councilmember Goforth from the beginning of the meeting; she joined the meeting through the use of video conference equipment at 8:36 a.m. and arrived in-person at 8:56 a.m.)

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

### 1-a. Hear a presentation and discuss heat relief data and the City's anticipated heat relief response for Summer 2024.

Community Services Deputy Director Lindsey Balinkie introduced Emergency Manager Robert Campa and Chief Data Officer of Data and Performance Management Evan Allred and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Ms. Balinkie provided updated heat-related death data received from Maricopa County which was broken down by city. She revealed that of the 645 people who died last year from heat-related deaths, 51 of them were in Mesa. She reported the statistics of heat-related deaths by age and housing status, deaths occurring outdoor and indoor, indoor deaths due to air conditioning status, and heat-related deaths due to substance abuse. (See Pages 2 through 6 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Balinkie displayed maps by census tract, indicating the areas where the indoor heat-related deaths occurred for the period 2020-2023 and noting that there were 53 total indoor deaths. She explained that the areas with the highest number of deaths are highlighted on the maps and described how the data has assisted with the outreach efforts. She stated that door-to-door outreach is being conducted by volunteers to make sure that citizens know about the services that are provided by the City. She confirmed that some of the higher risk areas are in the county

but that these citizens are still being provided assistance. (See Pages 7 through 9 of Attachment 1)

Discussion ensued regarding the heat relief center hours, current locations, and additional location options.

Mr. Campa supplied data which showed the number of heat-related calls that the Mesa Fire & Medical Department (MFMD) received during the years 2019-2023, pointing out that 90% of the calls were received between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. He pointed out that the low demand may be the reason that there is not an overnight shelter. He explained details of the changes that are being made to the Heat Relief Network and the collaboration and partnerships that are involved in the efforts. (See Pages 10 and 11 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Campa summarized the data that was collected with the new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) tracking system and provided details on ways the callers are directed to services and assistance that might be beneficial. (See Page 12 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Balinkie gave an overview of services that were added to the 2024 Heat Relief Network and confirmed that the services provided are ongoing and in collaboration with many different agencies. (See Pages 13 and 14 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff, Ms. Balinkie provided the definitions of respite and cooling centers and gave the details about the different sites and what is provided at each, as well as the hours of service. She added that additional information can be found at [mesaaz.gov/summerhealth](http://mesaaz.gov/summerhealth).

Additional discussion ensued regarding the programs, partnerships, and how to break down the barriers to get citizens what they need to survive the heat crisis.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

1-b. Hear a presentation, discuss, and receive an update on public outreach results for, and provide direction on, the proposed 2024 General Obligation Bonds.

Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Director Andrea Moore explained that the presentation is a continuation from the Study Session held May 20, 2024, and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Ms. Moore gave an overview of the proposed project which will be considered the Northeast Regional Trail System and provided details about the parks and trailheads. She described the beginning and ending points of the trail and the details about the property where the trail will be located. (See Page 17 of Attachment 2)

Responding to a question from Mayor Giles, Ms. Moore confirmed the trail lengths in miles which will create a tremendous bike and pedestrian connection for East Mesa.

City Engineer Beth Huning introduced i.d.e.a. Museum Administrator Jarrad Bittner and explained that cultural and education opportunities are part of the proposed bond requests. (See Page 18 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Bittner provided the history of the i.d.e.a Museum renovation project that began with planning 10 years ago and outlined the details of the progress of the project to date. He confirmed that a phased construction approach was adopted and stated that the second phase of the project is set to be completed this fall. He reported that the i.d.e.a Museum Foundation had been fundraising to support this project, noting that it has been very successful, and he confirmed that multiple private contributions have also been received. He gave an outline of the future objectives for the renovation project that is to be funded by the proposed bond funds. (See Pages 19 and 20 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question from Councilmember Spilsbury, Mr. Bittner explained that the Museum is working on limiting closures during construction, especially during the summer. He confirmed that the children's summer camp will not be affected by the closures.

Downtown Transformation Manager Jeff McVay provided a brief history of the Sistine House Historic Preservation project. He explained that the project had progressed in a phased approach, but staff are requesting approval to take the project forward using the proposed bond funds to complete the entire concept. (See Page 21 of Attachment 2)

In response to a request from City Manager Christopher Brady, Mr. McVay highlighted the space elements. He discussed the potential for an urban farm, noting interest from a local farmer to operate a garden and farm stand at the location, as well as the possibilities to host food trucks and other pop-up events.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Spilsbury, Mr. McVay explained that the property will operate with a park concept featuring trees and picnic tables with the same security seen in other parks. He noted that the farm portion of the land will be secured and fenced because the produce is being grown to be sold.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the renovations, costs, and the project details.

Ms. Huning provided an overview of the proposed projects for the Active Lifestyles and Cultural and Community Safety projects, stating the combined request is for \$254.2 million. (See Pages 22 and 23 of Attachment 2)

Finance Director Irma Ashworth supplied information about the possible impact this bond would have on the citizens and explained how the bonds are issued. She acknowledged the requirement to provide the financial impact information in the voter packet and gave details of the estimated calculations for the different property values. (See Page 24 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Brady added that the values shown are from a few years ago and the numbers will be updated annually based on Maricopa County taxable value.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the proposed bond amounts.

Mr. Brady advised that if the bonds are approved, then staff would return to Council to discuss a six-year program of projects to be scheduled and funded by approval from Council. He stated that debt may only be issued for the projects scheduled each year.

Discussion ensued regarding the Northeast Regional Trail System and the connectivity to other parks.

Mr. Brady announced that the call for the election is scheduled for the June 3, 2024, Regular Council meeting which will also include two bond questions.

Mayor Giles reminded Council this is now a political campaign and to be conscious about what is being said in meetings to avoid influencing the votes. He confirmed the importance of sharing information appropriately outside of the Council meetings.

Mr. Brady verified that an educational publicity pamphlet with details about the election will be provided to assist with educating the voters.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

2. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Mayor Giles and Councilmembers highlighted the events, meetings and conferences recently attended.

3. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, May 30, 2024, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

# Heat Relief Update

**May 23, 2024**

Lindsey Balinkie, Deputy Director, Community Services

Robert Campa, Emergency Manager, Mesa Fire and Medical

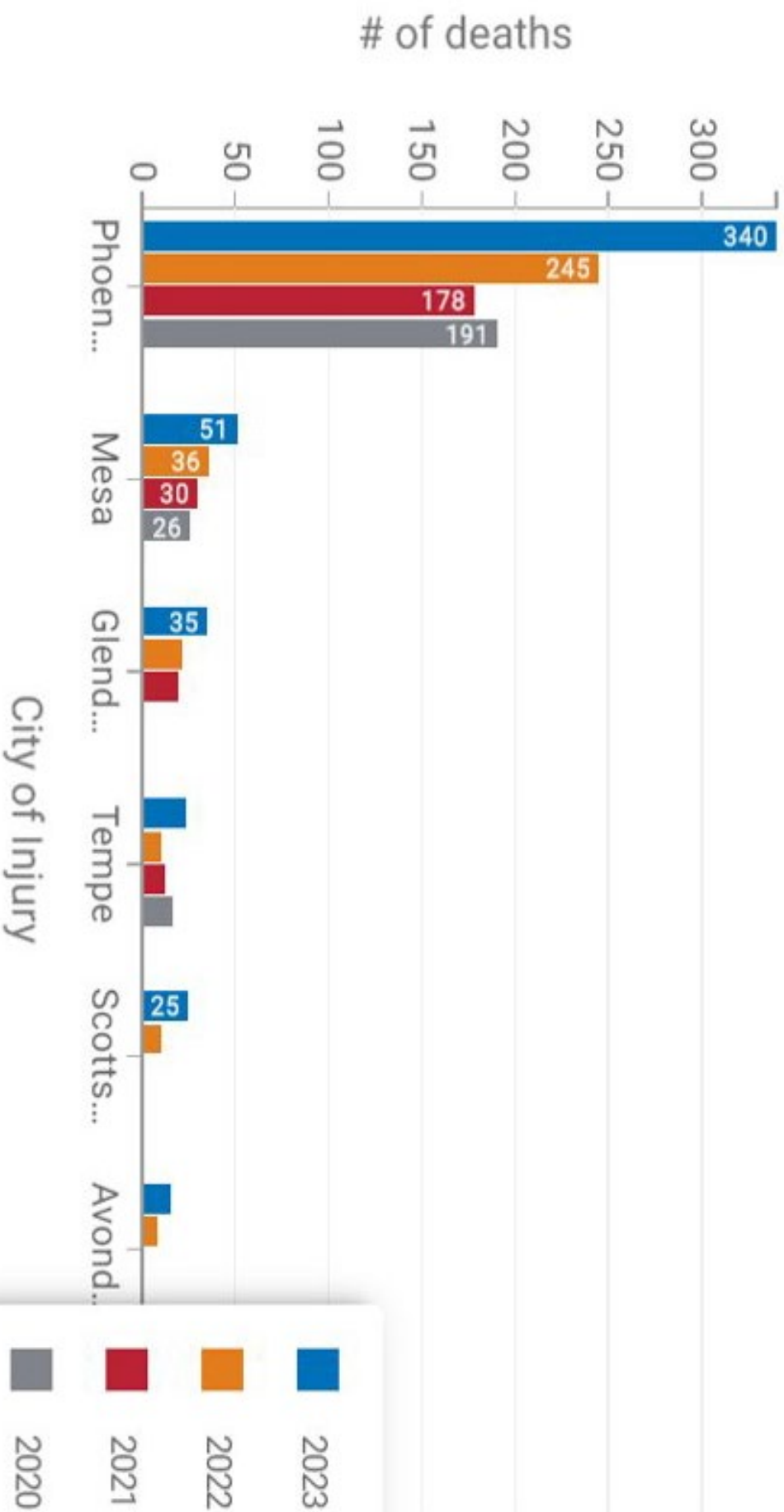
Evan Allred, Chief Data Officer, Data and Performance Management



# Heat Related Deaths by City

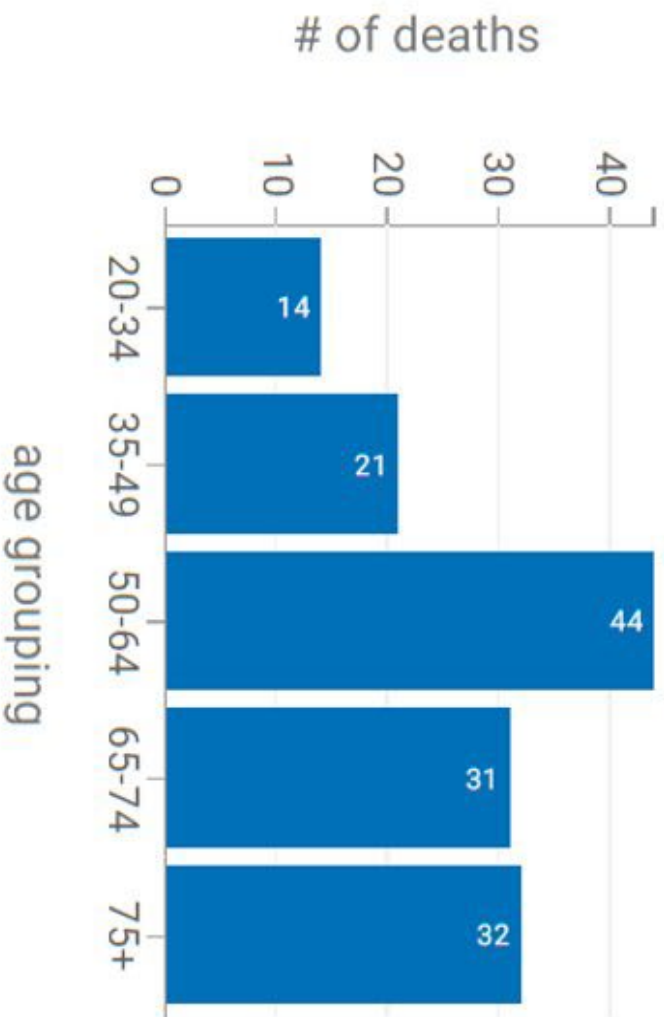
## Heat-related deaths by City

# heat-related deaths determined by Maricopa County Health Dept



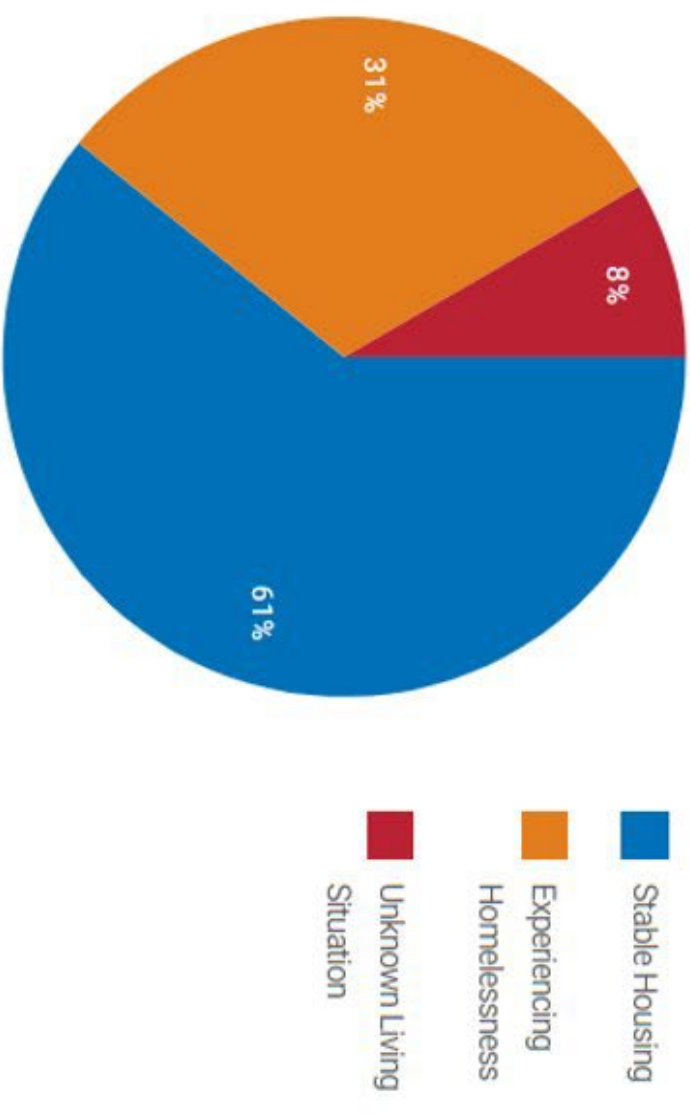
## Deaths by Age

Mesa 2020-2023 Heat Related Deaths



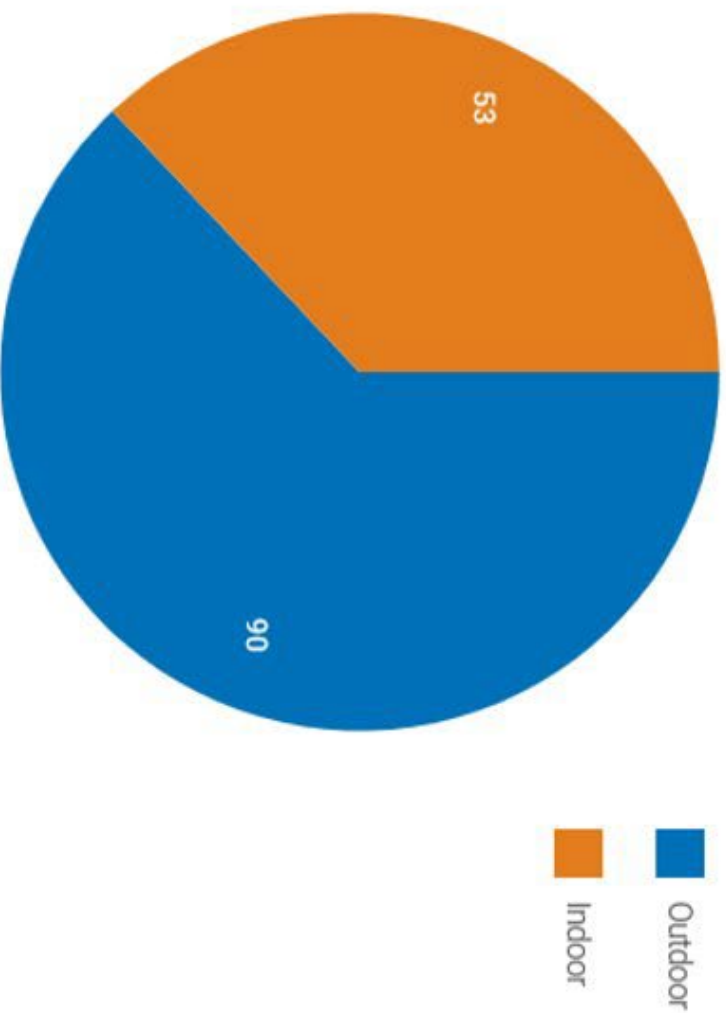
## Deaths by Housing Status

Mesa 2020-2023 Heat Related Deaths



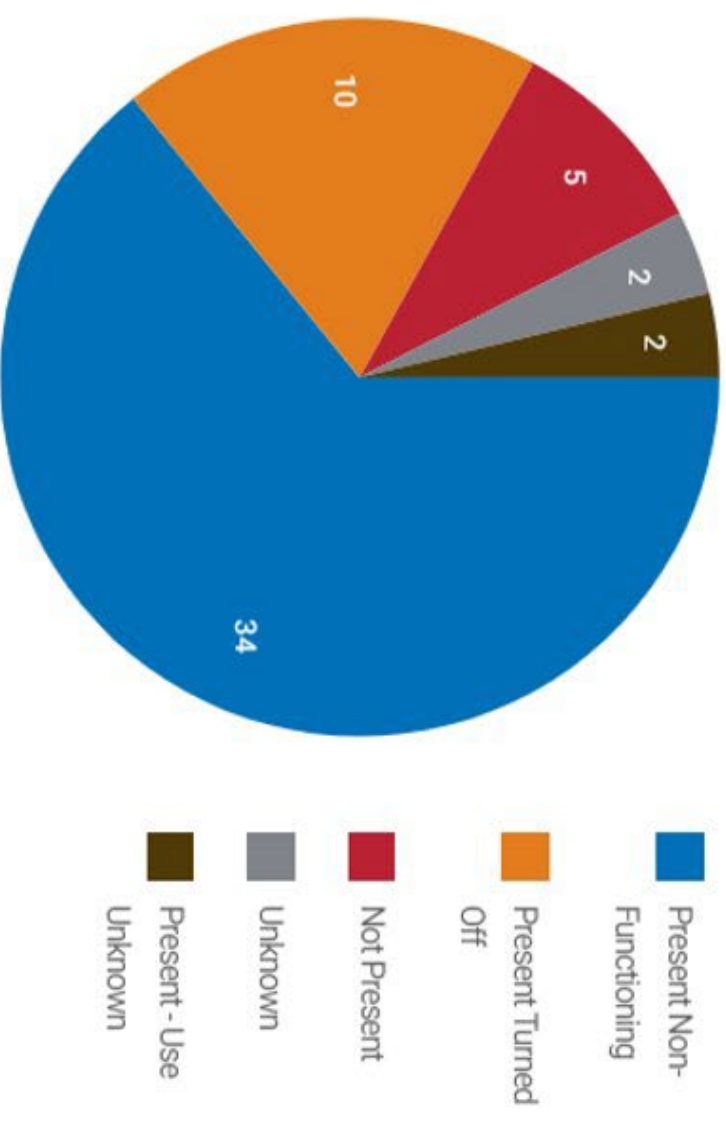
## Death Occurring Outdoor/Indoor

Mesa 2020-2023 Heat Related Deaths



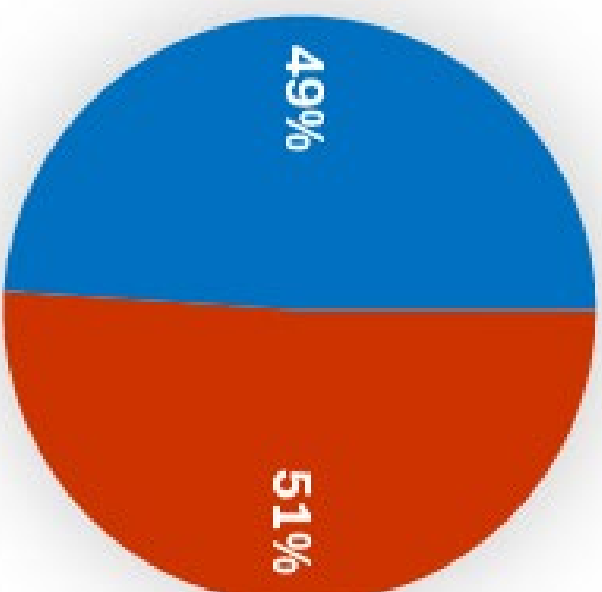
## Indoor Deaths by AC Status

Mesa 2020-2023 Heat Related Deaths





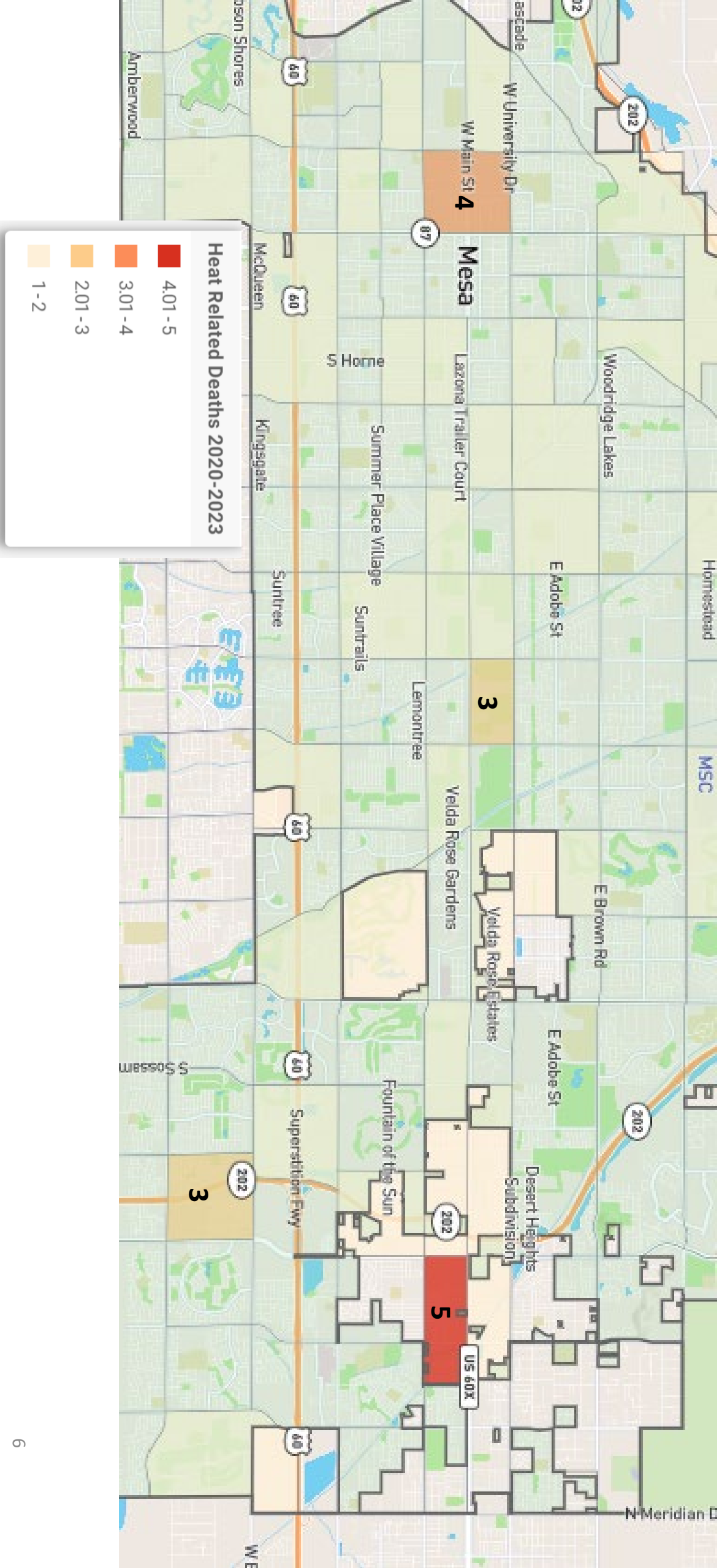
## Heat Related Deaths: Substance Use



- Substance Involved
- No Substance Involved

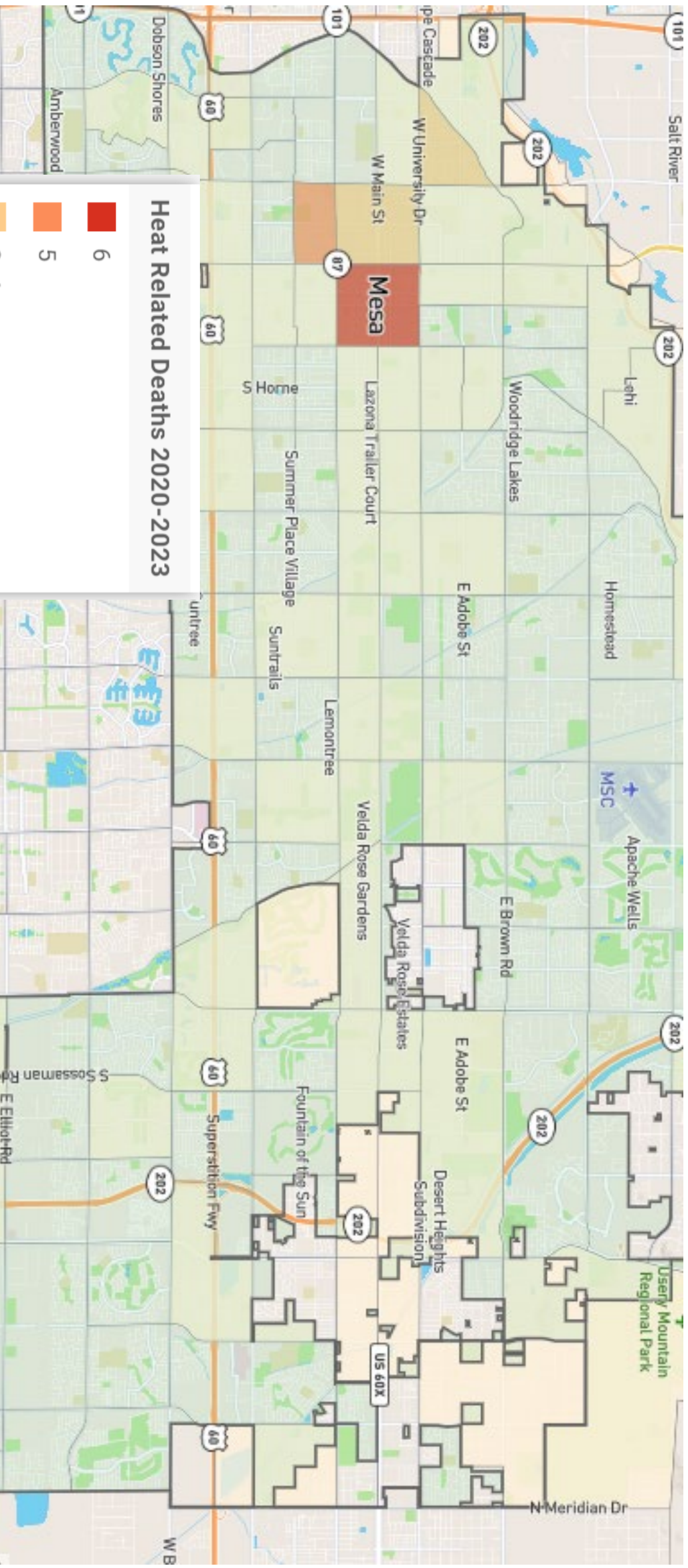
# Indoor Heat Related Deaths by Census Tract

By census tract over four-year period 2020-2023, 53 indoor deaths.



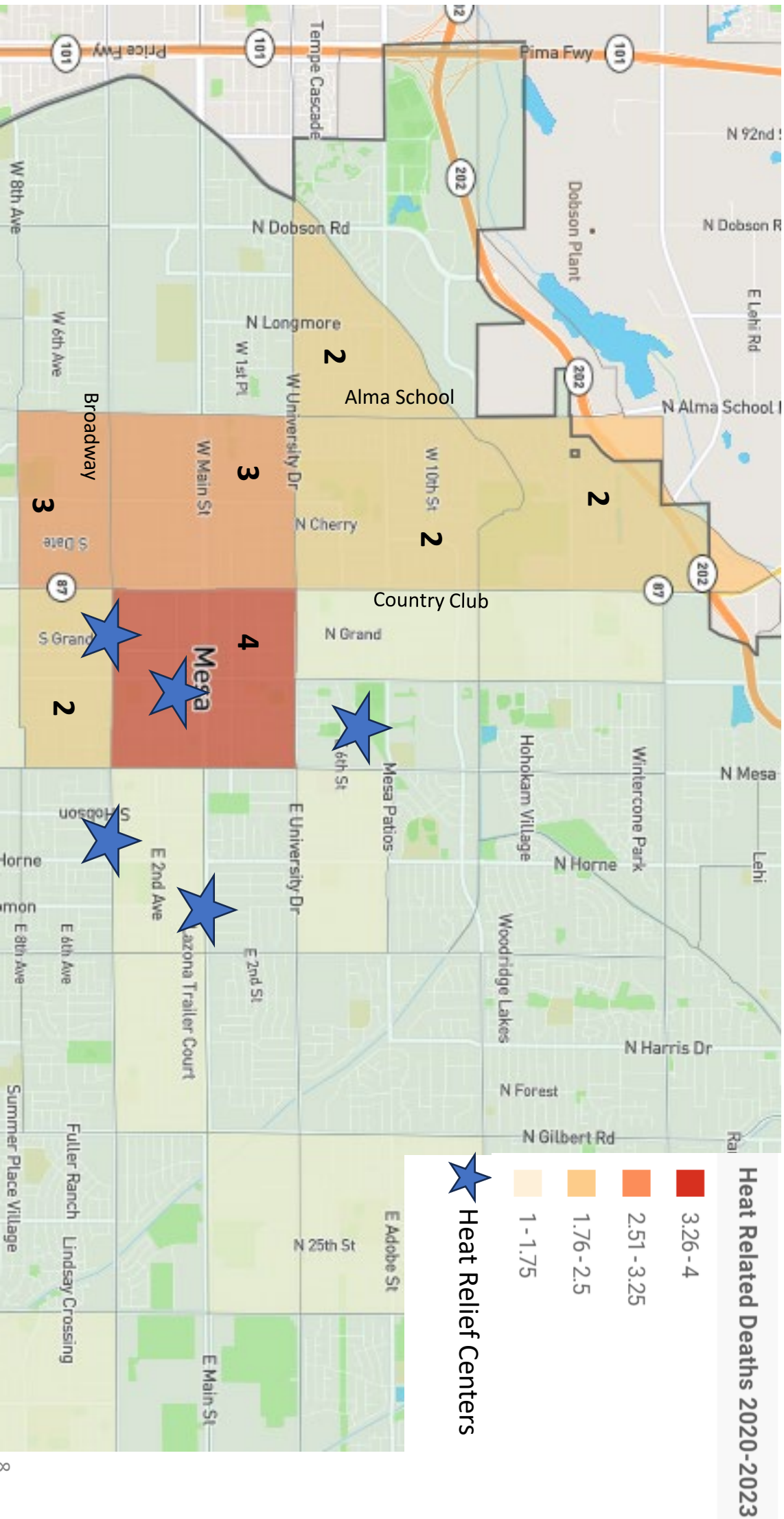
# Outdoor Heat Related Deaths

By census tract over four-year period, 90 outdoor deaths.

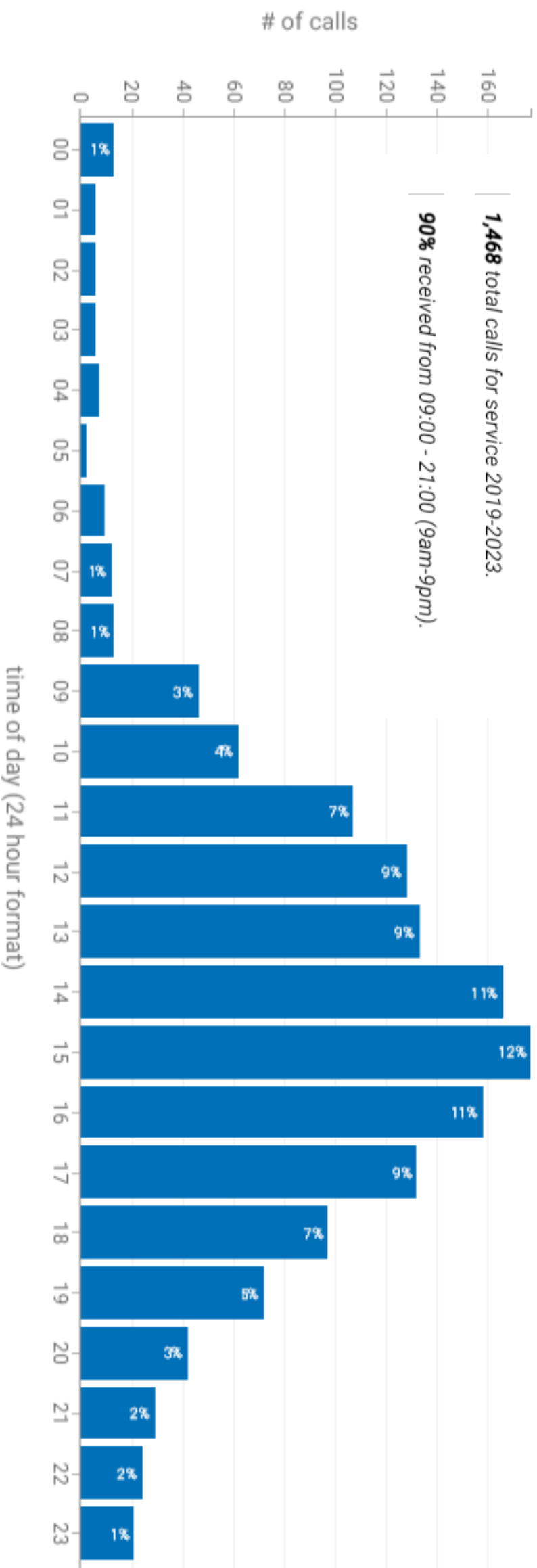


# Outdoor Unhoused Heat Related Deaths

By census tract over four-year period, 44 outdoor unhoused deaths.



## MFMD Heat-Related Calls for Service: 2019-2023



- 211 upgrades
- MAG Heat Relief Network
- Maricopa County Public Health Collaboration
- Additional Emergency Management Resources
- Local partners



- Heat related injury or illness
  - Exertion
  - Exposure
  - Inadequate indoor cooling
- Patient may benefit from
  - Cooling station
  - Access to water/hydration station
  - HVAC services
- Referral to Heat Relief Support Team
  - Fire & Life Safety/Office of Homeless Solutions collaboration
  - Outreach to individual
  - Funding added

- Heat Relief Response Fund
  - MFMD, Office of Homeless Solutions Collaboration
- Mobile Heat Relief Navigators
- Off the Streets shelter rooms



[mesaaz.gov/summerhelp](https://mesaaz.gov/summerhelp)



## Additional Summer 2024 Heat Relief

- Outreach
- Faith Community Engagement
- Respite and Cooling Centers
- Electric Utility Assistance
- Emergency Home Rehab
- 211 Call Center and Transportation
- Hydration Donations and Distribution



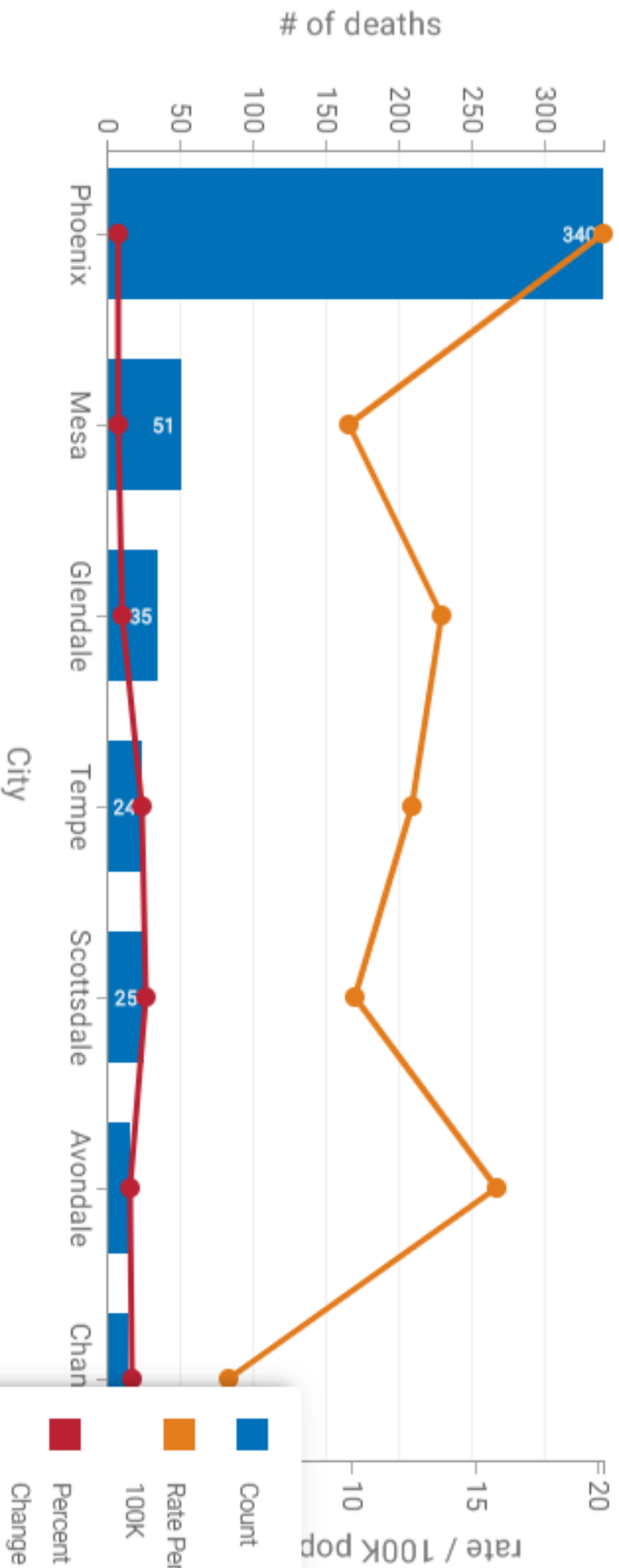
[mesaaz.gov/summerhelp](https://mesaaz.gov/summerhelp)

# Questions?

# Heat Related Deaths Rate Per 100k

## Heat-related deaths 2023

Totals, % change prior year and rate / 100,000 population



Legend

- Count
- Rate Per 100K
- Percent Change



Legend X 16

## Over four-year period from 2020-2023 Mesa Heat Related Deaths and Substance Use

|                         | Unsheltered | Housed Individuals | Total |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------|
| Drug Caused             | 34          | 10                 | 44    |
| Drug Contributed        | 5           | 11                 | 16    |
| Substance Use           | 39          | 22                 | 61    |
| No Substance Use        | 5           | 60                 | 65    |
| Meth/Amphetamines       | 32          | 11                 | 43    |
| Fentanyl/Fluorofentanyl | 11          | *                  | *     |

\*Counts are approximate. Unknown living situations and groups with less than <5 have been excluded.

# BUILDING MESA'S FUTURE Through Infrastructure



May 20, 2024 – Study Session  
May 23, 2024 – Study Session  
Beth Huning, City Engineer

# Consider the possibilities . . .

## VISIONING . . .

Projects Currently in Design

Approved Masterplans

General Plan Engagement

Community Events Input & Comments

Surveys

Council Feedback

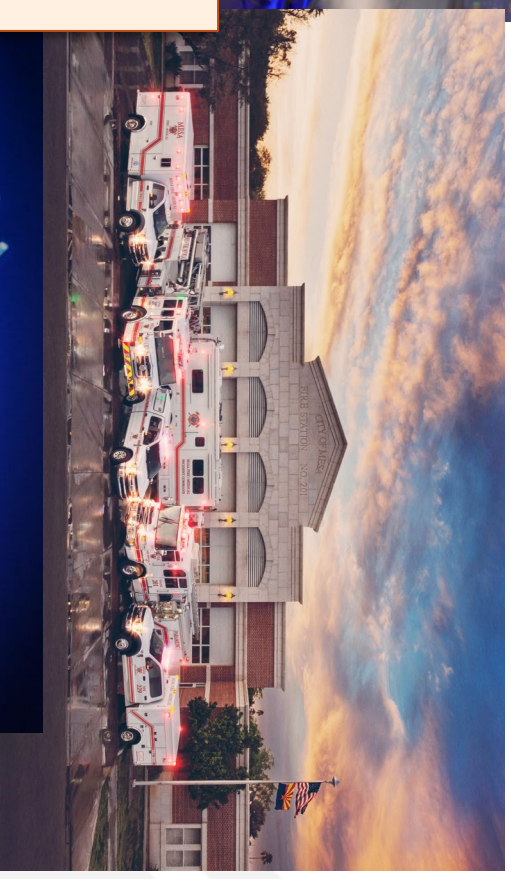


## *Proposed Plan . . .*

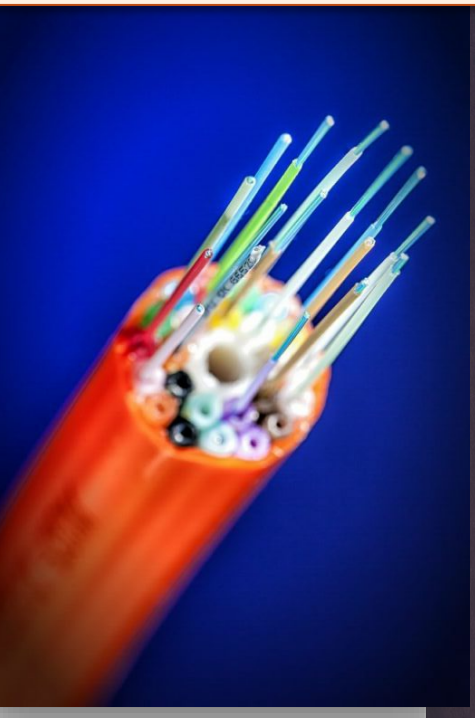
- . . . . Enhance Community Safety!**
- . . . . Promote Active Lifestyles!**
- . . . . Expand Cultural/Educational Opportunities!**



# Enhance Community Safety



- Community Safety Projects
  - Emergency 911 Center
    - Fire & Medical Substation
      - Fiber Network
      - Fire Apparatus
  - Safe Streets For All (Center Street)

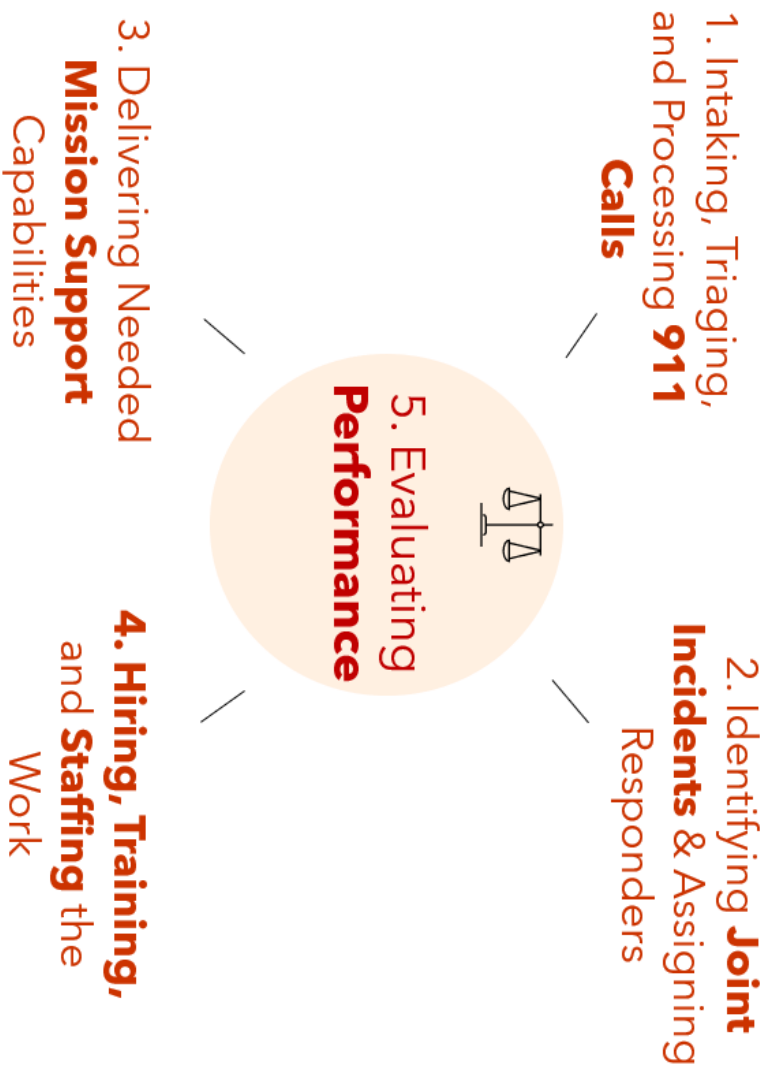




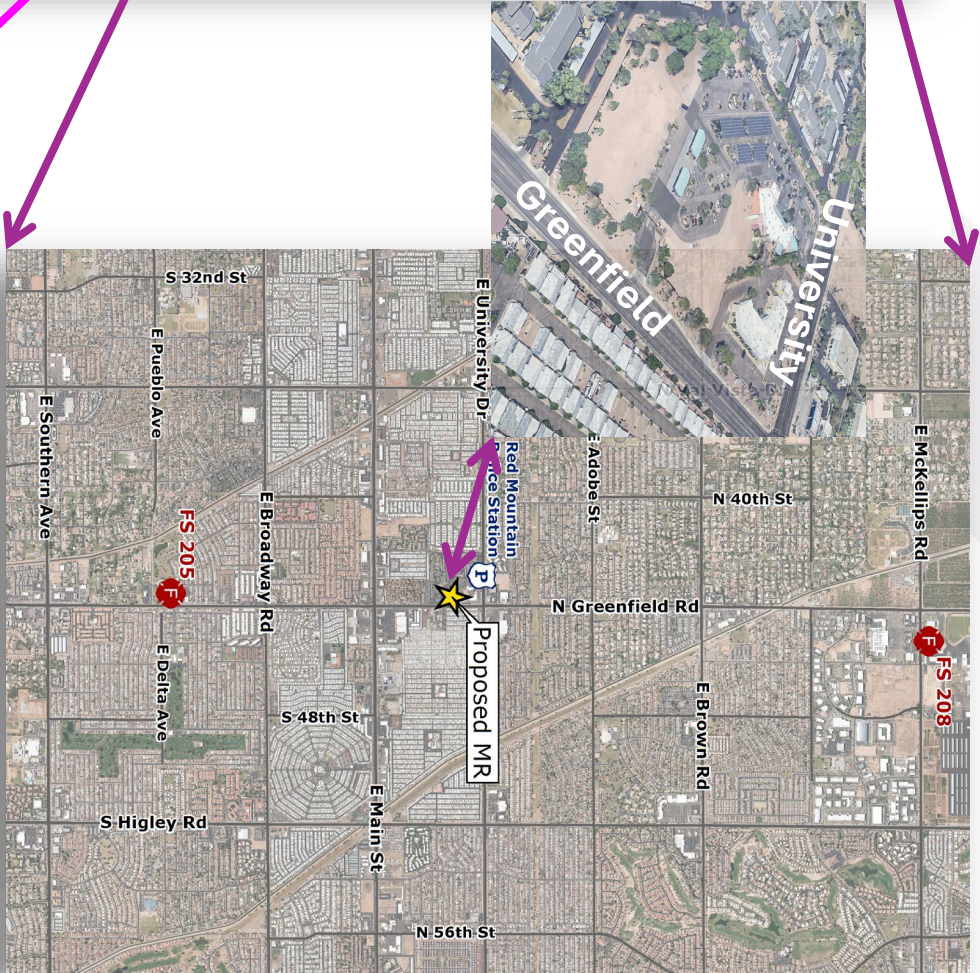
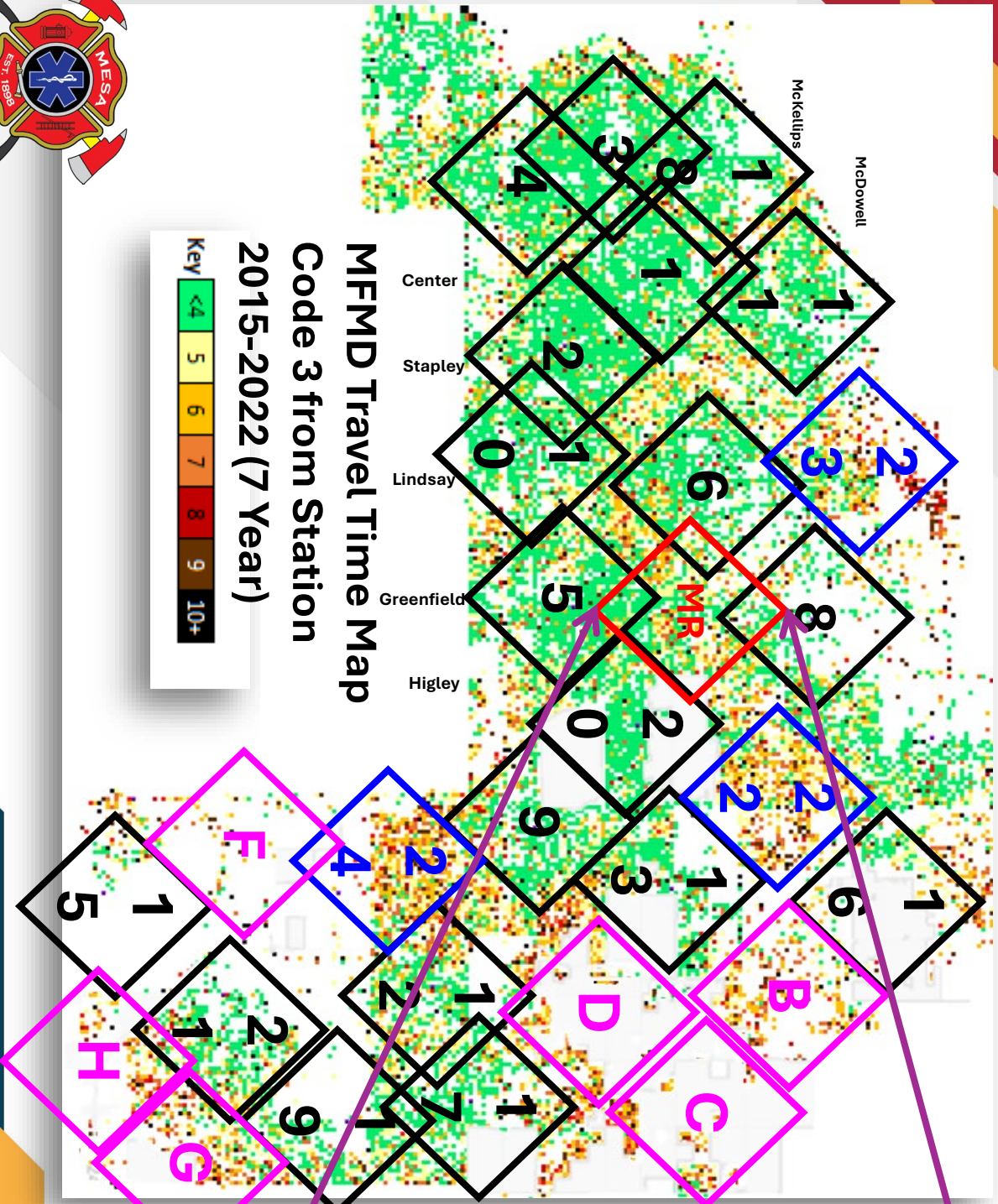
# Emergency 911 Center

## Facility Needs

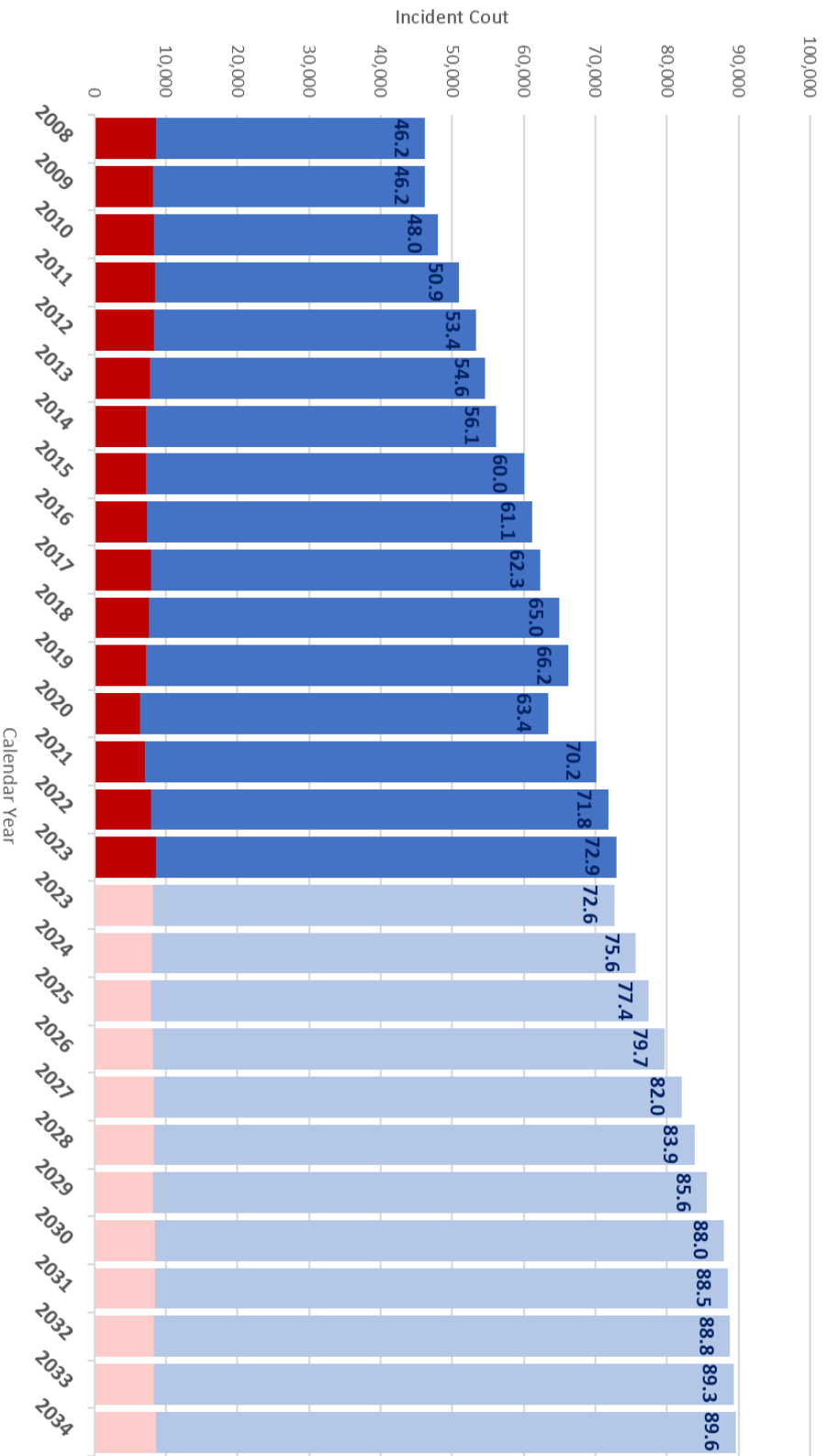
- Next Gen 911
- Modernize aging facilities
- Expand limited space
- Increase efficiency
- Real time situational awareness



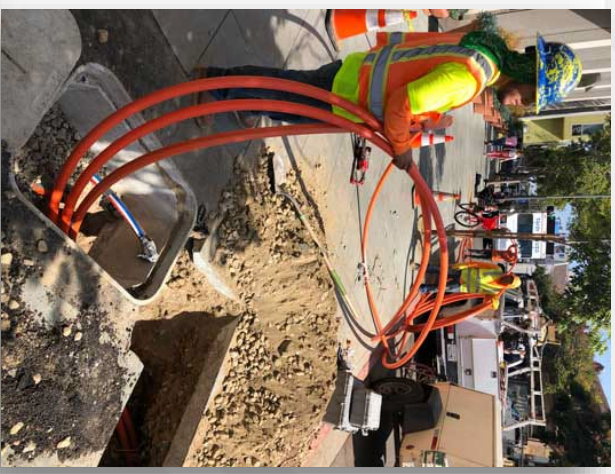
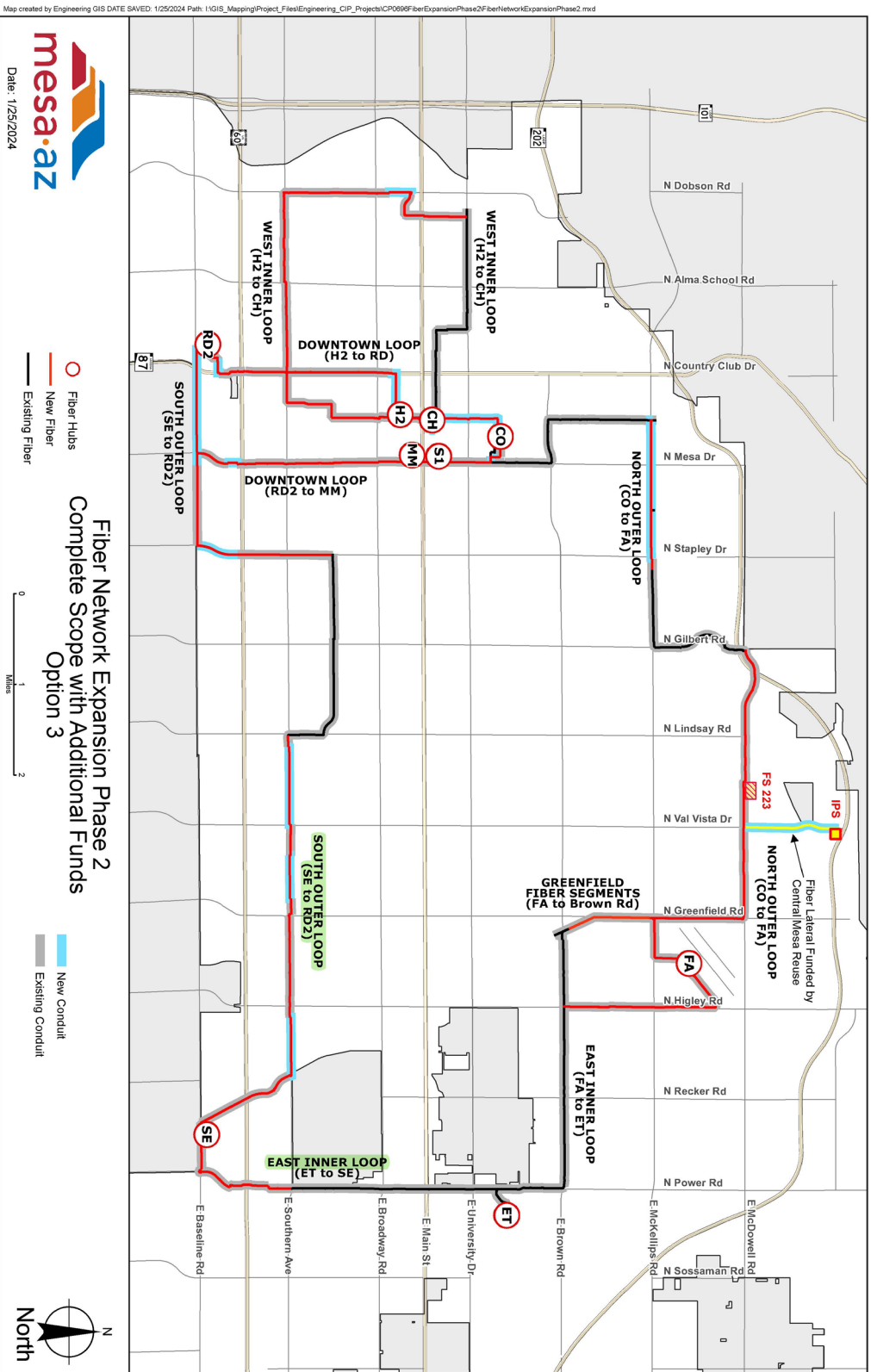
# Fire & Medical Substation



# Citywide Medical Response Needs



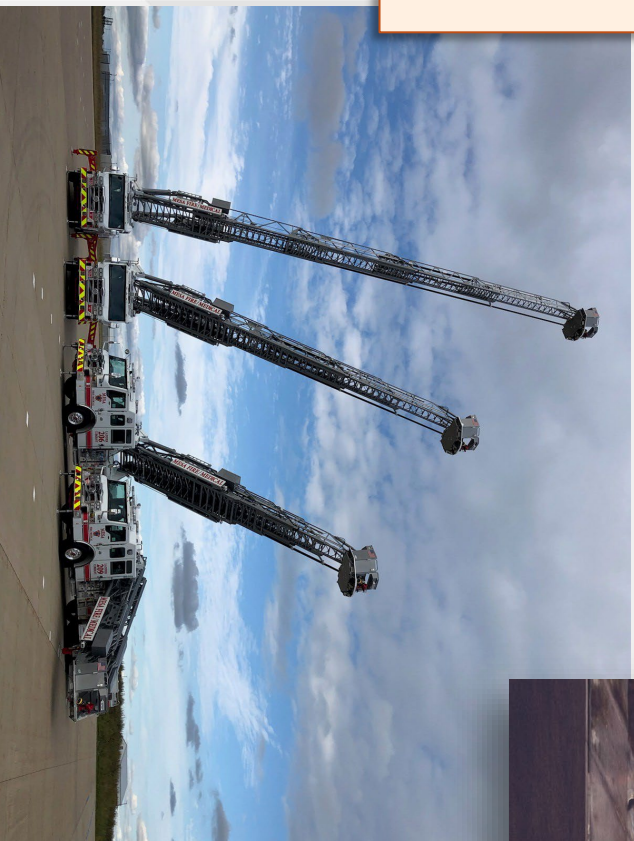
# Fiber Network



# Fire Apparatus

## Replacement Apparatus Needs

- Pumpers
- Ladders
- Specialty units



## Safe Streets for All

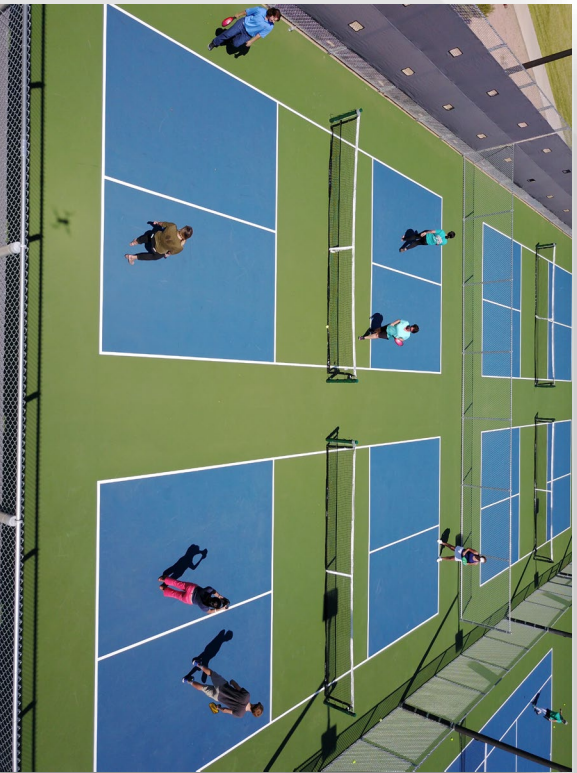
Review, evaluate, and address safety concerns related to use of Mesa's transportation network by pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.

Individual projects will be brought back after identification and prioritization.

# Community Safety Summary

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Emergency 911 Center      | \$ 55 M           |
| ■ Fire & Medical Substation | \$ 2.75M          |
| ■ Fiber Network             | \$ 4 M            |
| ■ Fire Apparatus            | \$ 20 M           |
| ■ Safe Streets for All      | \$ 7 M            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>\$ 88.75 M</b> |

# Promote Active Lifestyles



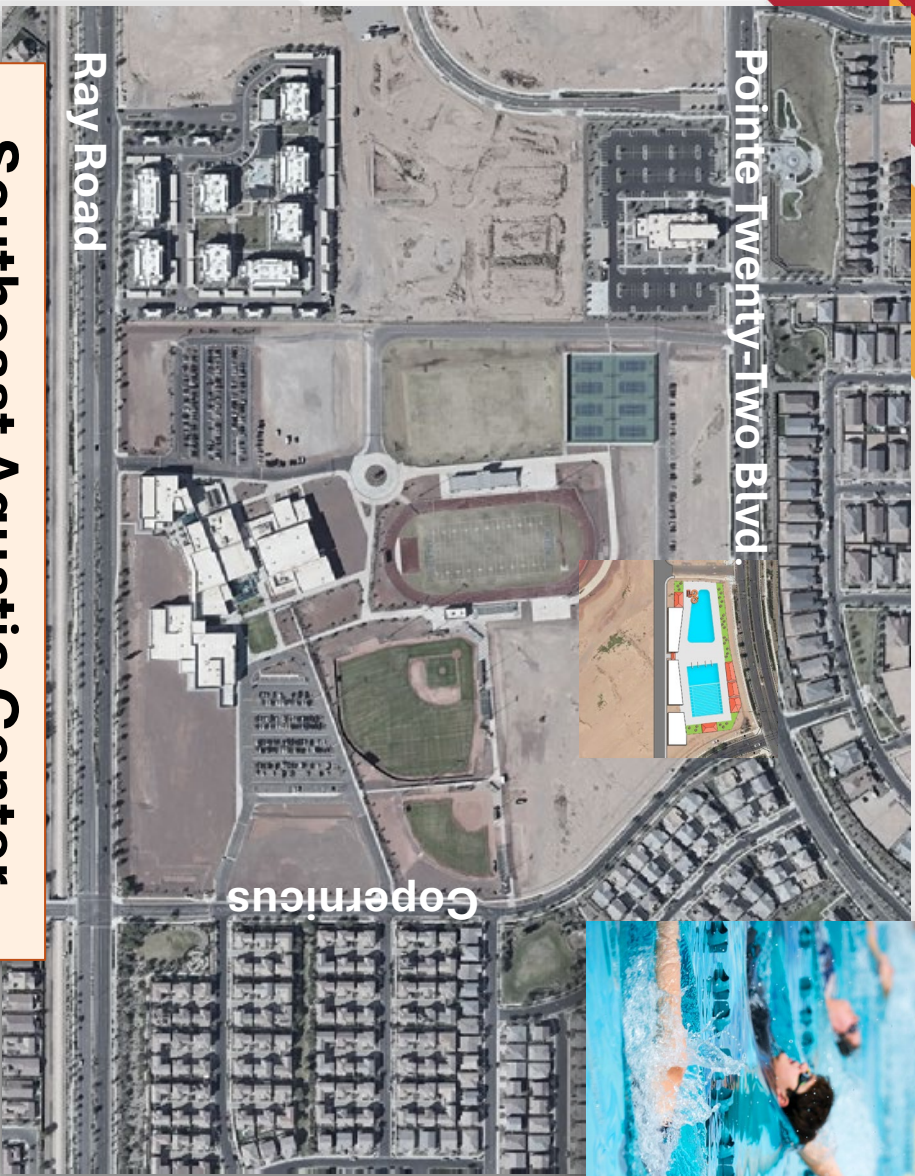
## Active Lifestyle Projects

- Aquatics
- Park Renovations
- Pickleball Courts
- Indoor Recreation Center
- Northeast Regional Trail System





# Aquatics



Ray Road

Pointe Twenty-Two Blvd.

Copernicus

## Southwest Aquatic Center Eastmark High School



Adobe Road

## Red Mountain Aquatic Center Demolish/Replace Fremont

# Citywide Park Renovations



## Parks Projects

Water Conservation  
Projects

Carriage Lane

Woodglen

Monterey (dog park)

Shepherders (pickleball)

Meadowgreen

Heritage

Augusta Ranch



**Kingsborough**  
Before & After



**Emerald**  
Before & After

# Pickleball Courts



## Pickleball Projects

Evergreen

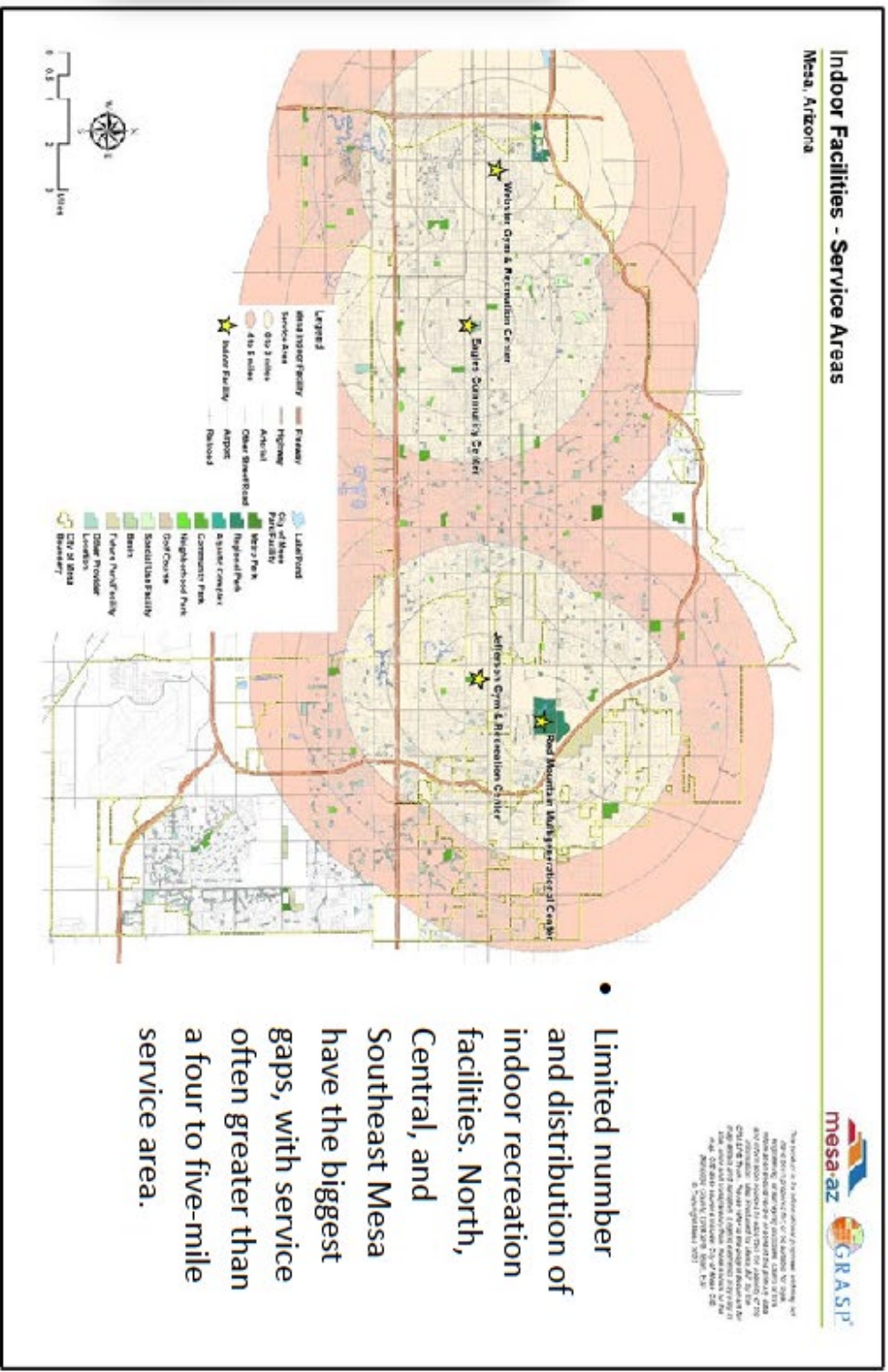
Rancho del Mar

Countryside

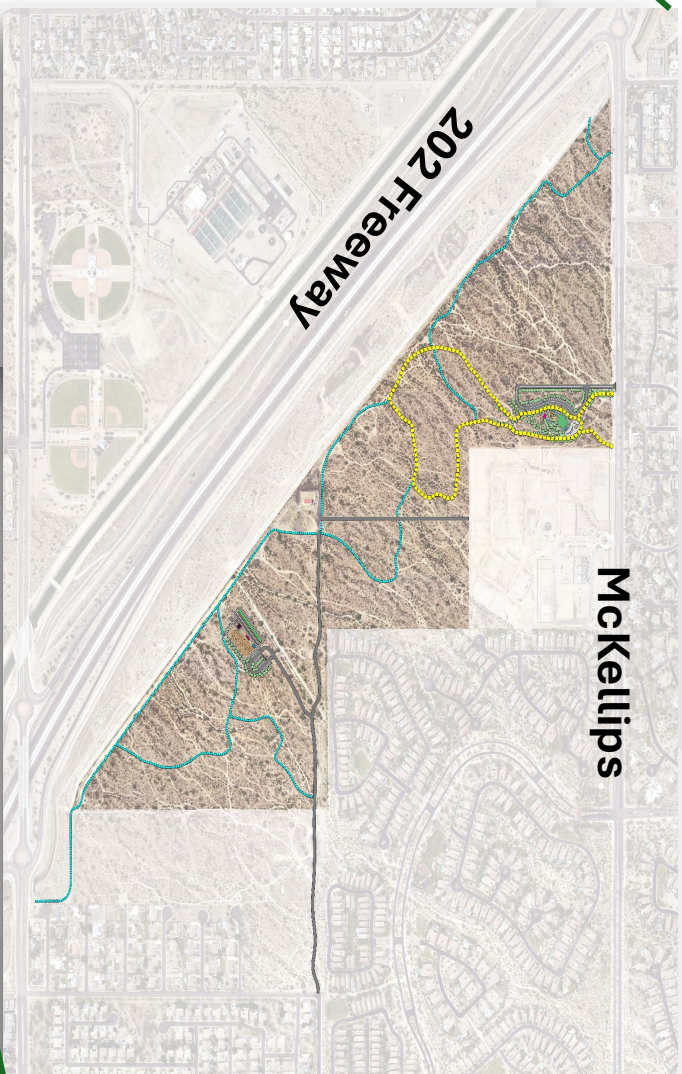
Skyline



# Indoor Recreation Center



# Northeast Regional Trail System



# Cultural/Educational Opportunities

## Cultural/Educational Opportunity Projects

- i.d.e.a Museum
- Historic Preservation Sirrine House



# i.d.e.a Museum

Master Plan and  
Facility Assessment  
developed with  
Gyroscope, Inc.

COVID Impacts  
Community

Architectural Design and  
phased Renovation Plan  
Developed

Projected Completion of  
Renovation Initial Phase

2016-2018

Late 2018

2020-2022

2021-2022

2022-2023

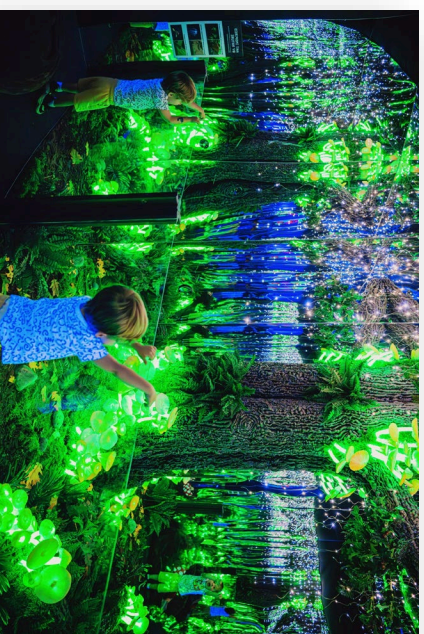
2023-2024

Oct. 2024

5M GO Bond Approved by  
Voters

Project Feasibility,  
Community Need,  
Project Vision  
Reassessed

Initial Design Phase  
Completed



# i.d.e.a Museum

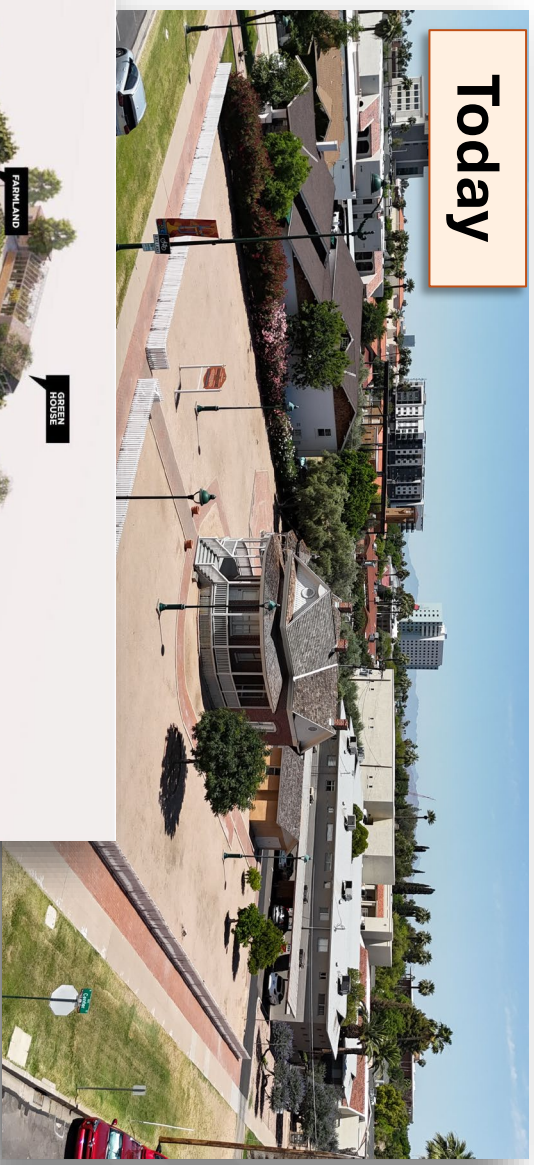


- **Galleries:** Renovate and align gallery experiences with **i.d.e.a.** Museum acronym
  - **Imagination Gallery** (Currently ArtVille)
  - **design Gallery** (Offices on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)
  - **experience Gallery** (Currently HUB)
  - **art Gallery** (Currently Whiteman Gallery)
- **idea Studio:** New art studio for all ages
- **Support:** Relocate eating area; remodel restrooms and storage space
- **Classroom:** Renovate Atrium Classroom to increase program capacity
- **Atrium:** New year-round interactive outdoor experience
- **New Exhibit:** New exterior exhibit space
- **Exterior Experience:** New interactive exterior experience
- **Entry:** Enhance façade



# Historic Preservation Sirrine House

Today



Tomorrow



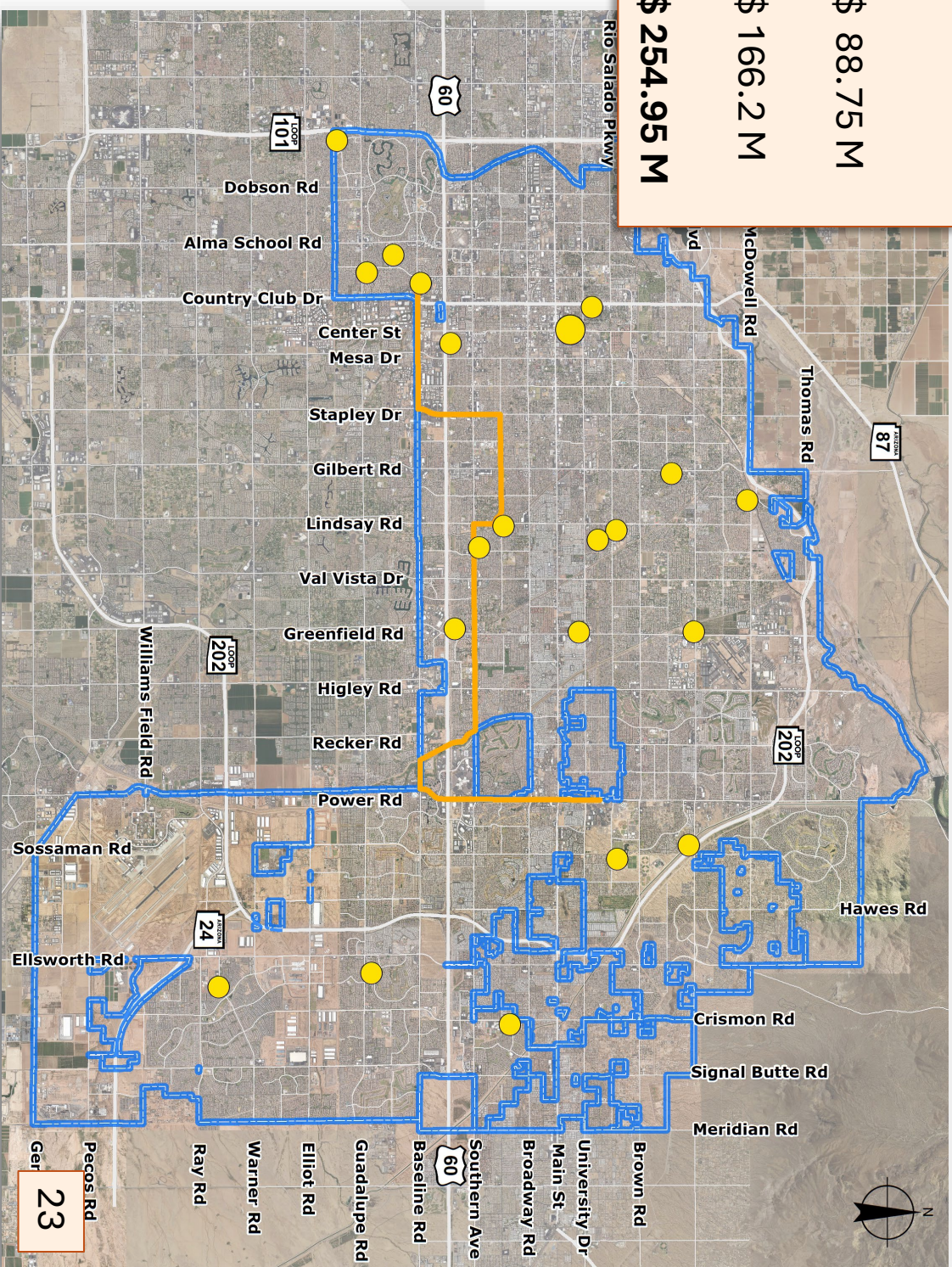
## Active Lifestyles & Cultural/ Summary!

- Active Lifestyles Projects \$ 141.2 M
  - Cultural/Education Projects \$ 25.0 M
- TOTAL \$ 166.2 M**

# Proposed Citywide Plan!

- Community Safety \$ 88.75 M
- Active Lifestyles & Cultural/Education \$ 166.2 M

**TOTAL \$ 254.95 M**



## Median Homeowner Impact (Estimate)

| 2024 Bond Authorization | Average annual impact over 26 Years<br>For Assessed Value of \$250,000 * | Average annual impact over 26 Years<br>For Mesa Median Assessed Value (\$177,213) * |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| \$200,000,000           | \$55   | \$39  |
| \$250,000,000           | \$69   | \$49  |
| \$300,000,000           | \$83   | \$59  |

\* Maricopa County Assessed Limited Property Values – Taxable Value not Sales Value

# WHAT'S NEXT?

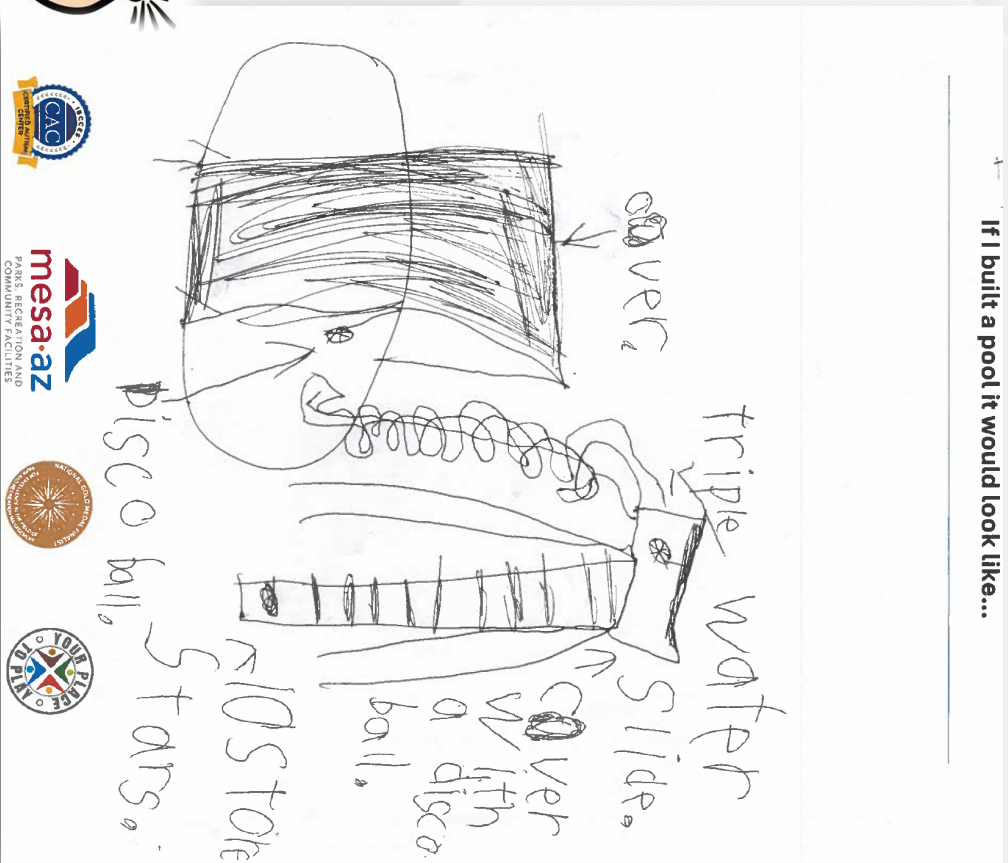
- Call For Election:

June 3

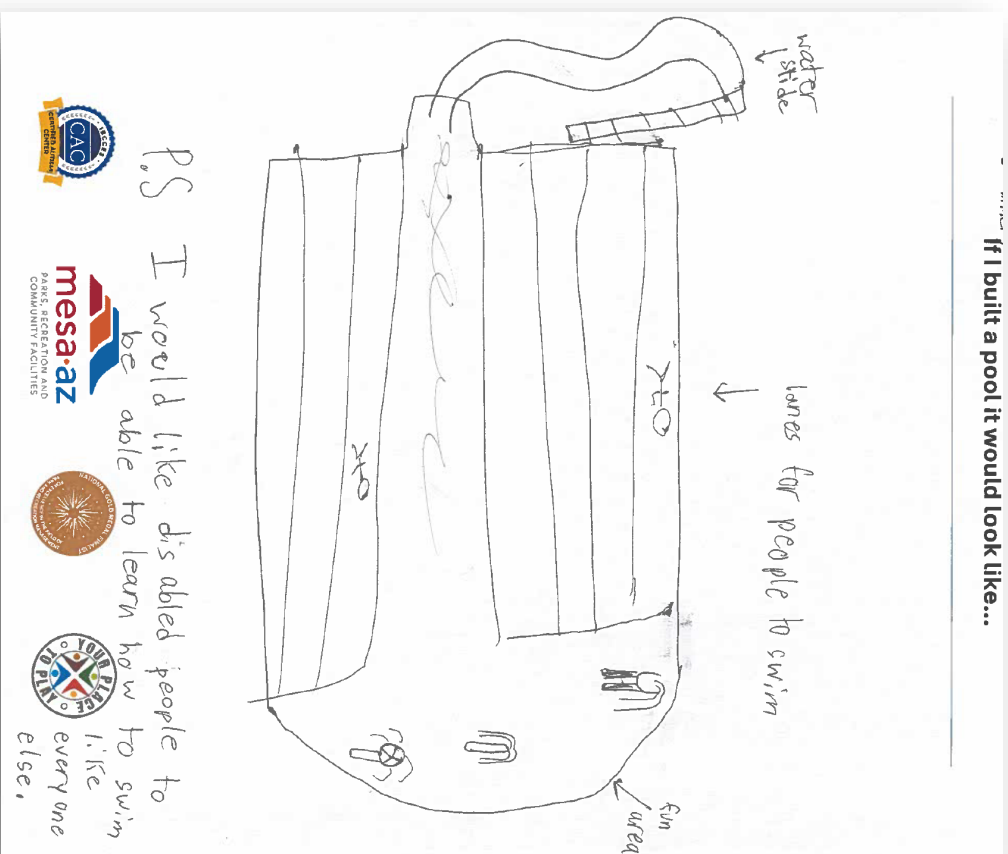


# ... From Our Youngest Fans!

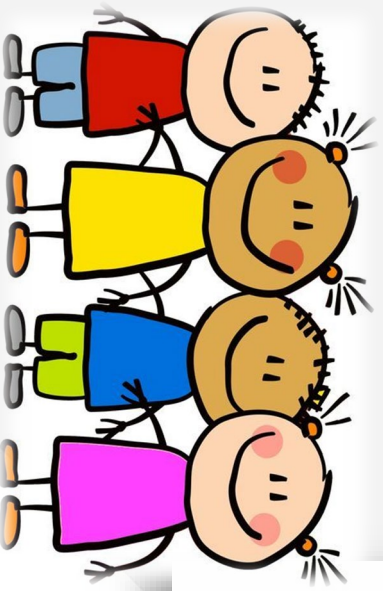
If I built a pool it would look like...



If I built a pool it would look like...



P.S. I would like disabled people to be able to learn how to swim like everyone else.





# QUESTIONS?